

Applicants elect Group I, claims 14-76 and 93-100, drawn to a stable bioadhesive composition, with traverse. Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that the search and examination of the three groups of claims is not unduly burdensome. Group I is directed to a composition, and Groups II and III are directed to methods of making the composition of Group I. Moreover, the claims of Groups II and III are both classified in class 264.

The criteria for a proper restriction requirement, according to MPEP § 803, is that the Examiner must establish that the inventions are independent or distinct as claimed and that there is a serious burden on the Examiner to examine the entire application. Since it is believed that the search and examination of the three groups of claims is not unduly burdensome upon the Examiner, restriction is not proper and should be withdrawn.

II. Conclusion

An early favorable action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0741 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.